



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

OPNAVINST 1540.51B
N87
14 April 1994

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1540.51B

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: SUBMARINE ON BOARD TRAINING (SOBT) PROGRAM

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3502.2A (NOTAL)
(b) OPNAVINST 5290.1A (NOTAL)

1. Purpose. To revise the SOBT Program and delineate program responsibilities; to provide guidance and procedures to be used by commands designated to assess on board training requirements for all submarine systems.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 1540.51A.

3. Background. The expense and planning associated with the introduction and support of modern on board training devices and the potential impact of those devices on fleet readiness require close coordination and cooperation for development and implementation between fleet users, cognizant commanders, and training/trainer acquisition activities. That type of symbiotic relationship will ensure that fleet readiness and training requirements are fully considered. In the past a proliferation of on board training programs and materials were distributed and, in some cases, developed without the benefit of fleet input or control. That resulted in ineffective or redundant training which negatively impacted some on board training efforts. A standardization of the training development process and control over material dissemination was needed to produce quality on board training material that met the priority needs of the fleet. The STOBT Program was established in 1986 to provide this standardization for tactical training. The program was revised in 1989 to increase the scope to include all SOBT excluding nuclear propulsion and strategic weapons systems and components.

(A)

4. Discussion. This instruction expands the scope of the SOBT Program to include all areas of submarine on board training specifically to include strategic weapons and propulsion plant systems. The expanded program, which will continue to be called the SOBT Program, is hereby established to provide for the

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coordinated, systematic, and centrally-controlled determination of training requirements, maintenance and distribution of training materials, and prioritization of fleet feedback.

- R) 5. Applicability. This applies to all classes of submarines and all aspects of submarine on board training. Coverage is divided into six categories:

- a. Submarine platform (including safety).
- b. Tactical systems functions.
- A) c. Strategic systems functions.
- A) d. Nuclear systems functions.
- e. Hull, mechanical, and electrical systems functions.
- f. Submarine operations.

6. Program Responsibilities

a. Chief of Naval Operations (CNO)

(1) Provides overall policy, guidance, and coordination for program goals.

(2) Approves and provides program sponsorship for each new project.

(3) Makes appropriate program submissions and supports the budgetary process, as necessary, to implement SOBT projects.

b. Acquisition Manager

(1) Maintains a single point of contact within the procurement organization providing coordinated support for SOBT Program.

(2) Ensures that Navy Training Plans for new equipment or systems address required on board training programs and that funding is identified to support SOBT.

(3) Procures on board training materials for new equipment and systems.

c. Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET)

(1) Provides the primary point of contact for the shore based training structure.

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(2) Supports the integration of on board and shore based training requirements and capabilities.

(3) Provides inputs to the Fleet Agent, Commander Submarine Group TWO (COMSUBGRU TWO) SOBT office to support a catalog of effective on board training material for each submarine class.

(4) Provides the primary point of contact for subordinate activities involved in the development of training materials under CNET control.

(5) Reviews SOBT materials as requested by COMSUBGRU TWO to ensure that formal curricula and SOBT materials are consistent and complementary.

(6) Includes instruction and use of SOBT in formal courses of instruction where follow on use of SOBT materials will aid in reinforcement of formal instruction.

d. Type Commanders (TYCOMs)

(1) Provide primary program inputs concerning the near term and long range operational training goals and requirements.

(2) Jointly approve all new projects recommended for development subject to CNO funding approval.

(3) Establish fleet training requirements and training goals.

(4) Jointly approve all material/trainers for SOBT use before fleet installation.

e. COMSUBGRU TWO

(1) Acts as Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet/Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBLANT/COMSUBPAC) agent for SOBT.

(2) Issues, under TYCOM direction, all on board training materials.

(3) Provides primary fleet point of contact for all SOBT related matters.

(4) Supports CNO Submarine Trainer/Training Working Group and committees, established by reference (a), as the representative for on board training.

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(5) Functions as the primary training material review and distribution approval authority by this instruction and the joint TYCOMs' instruction on the subject. The review will include coordination with CNET training activities to ensure SOBT materials and formal training curricula are consistent and complementary.

(6) Provides primary support and fleet liaison for the introduction and implementation of training programs and material.

(7) Provides support for the development and implementation of program policy.

(8) Recommends prioritized training requirements to TYCOMs for approval.

(9) Reviews and comments on training/trainer proposals related to SOBT.

(10) Provides day-to-day coordination between the procurement organization, the fleet and training commands.

(11) Ensures adequate quantities of SOBT material are provided to CNET training activities for use in formal and responsive training within the training command.

A) (12) Duplicate video training materials in accordance with reference (b), as necessary to provide replacement training materials in response to fleet requests and when the development contractor is not contractually required to provide adequate quantities for distribution.

f. Other Activities. All activities that produce on board training material which may be applicable for submarine use will provide a copy to COMSUBGRU TWO for SOBT Program review and approval. If the material is appropriate for expanded distribution to meet submarine training requirements, distribution and issuance will be provided within funding constraints.

7. Action. In order to ensure consistent training product development, subsequent review, approval, and issuance, a SOBT Program development process is established as follows:

a. Requirement Phase. During this phase, the requirement for a specific on board training capability is established. In those cases where inputs are recommended by contractor proposal, COMSUBGRU TWO will assess the pertinence of the proposal to meet the training requirements. Regardless of source of origin, every

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proposed on board training requirement will be forwarded to COMSUBGRU TWO for review.

b. Requirement Prioritization. COMSUBGRU TWO will assess each on board training requirement with respect to (1) training under development and (2) the operational commander's perspective related to tactical and technical immediacy. Based on this assessment, COMSUBGRU TWO will prioritize the new requirement in relation to established requirements and recommend appropriate action to COMSUBLANT/COMSUBPAC.

c. Approval for Development. The TYCOMs' prioritized, recommended development list will be presented to CNO for approval. CNO will request the procurement organization, as appropriate, to assign an acquisition manager for procurement of the approved training material including devices, trainers, books, etc.

d. Acquisition/Development. The appointed acquisition manager will take steps to procure the necessary training material to meet the training requirements. COMSUBGRU TWO will review the training material for adequacy, effectiveness, and adherence to the original requirements and submit comments as deemed appropriate. COMSUBGRU TWO will work closely with the material developer throughout the development stage, providing technical/tactical reviews and consultation and assisting in any way consistent with their designated responsibilities. The acquisition manager will maintain management control of training material procurement and development.

e. Distribution Approval. COMSUBGRU TWO will certify the technical/tactical accuracy of the material content when the format requirements have been met. COMSUBGRU TWO will then validate that the material will be effective in the on board training environment and approve it for distribution.

f. Fleet Distribution. COMSUBGRU TWO will direct distribution of material, as appropriate.

g. Program Maintenance

(1) All SOBT material and equipment will be supported by an adequate life cycle maintenance capability. COMSUBGRU TWO will coordinate the life cycle maintenance of all SOBT programs. Provision will be made for the maintenance of technical/tactical accuracy, the update and replacement of material, and the removal of program material when it is no longer required to support fleet training needs.

(2) It is incumbent upon both the fleet and procurement activities to ensure the accuracy and effectiveness of program

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material. All concerns relative to material accuracy and effectiveness will be addressed to COMSUBGRU TWO for appropriate action.



T. D. RYAN
By direction

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